

WEEKLY HERALD AND PHILANTHROPIST.

Mon., November 4, 1844.

Correspondence.

FROM THE EDITOR.

Stony Creek, Sussex Co., Va., Oct. 25, 1844.
DEAR SIR: At the table of my host to-day, the conversation turned upon emigration.—Some one observed that Mr. A.—and Mr. B.—were just about starting for the West—"in fact, every body was emigrating." "Yes," said an old lady, "the country will be left a desert, after a while." Sussex is one of the lower counties of Virginia, bordering on North Carolina. As we passed through the range of country of which it is a section, we wondered what there was in slavery to make it an object of idolatry. How can a country become other than a desert, where one man, owning fifty laborers, is relieved from the necessity of work, and they are bereft of all motive to put forth their energies. I asked two gentlemen a few hours since, whether their railroad, running from Ague Creek, on the Potowmack down through the State to Wilmington, N. C., had been of much benefit to the country. Not generally, was their reply. Petersburg and Richmond had been benefited, but at the expense of other parts of the State. Nearly all the little towns, flourishing till the track was laid, had been ruined—the trade having been directed by the railroad to the above-named places. At this point, one house used to do a large and profitable business; but now it scarcely affords a support to its principal. All this is easily explained. The laborers purchase nothing for themselves. The employers, comparatively few in number, can obtain their supplies very promptly, by means of the railroad, from the larger cities. Hence the decline, and in many instances, extinction of the smaller centres of trade. The result is, an addition to the combination of causes already fatally working a diminution of all other classes, in the State, but slaves, and large slaveholders. On the contrary, in the free States, the multiplication, and increase in the rapidity of communication with the larger cities, enhance the value of the products of the farmer, raise the price of labor, stimulate population, and multiply the wages-receiving classes. The result is, the smaller towns if well situated on the thoroughfares, secure a new impulse, and new centres of trade are started—for the working classes must find themselves, and they cannot afford, like the wealthy owner of a hundred laborers, to send twenty, forty, or a hundred miles, to purchase, wholesale, what they want.

Thus it is, that slavery turns good into evil—converts what, in free States, are wealth-producing facilities, into wealth-destroying causes in slave States.

An illustration of the state of things here, take one fact, stated to me by a slaveholding resident. Mr. —, a large land holder, having resolved to leave for the West, sold all his property. The choice tracts brought one dollar, fifty-six cents an acre; the rest, one dollar!! And yet in the face of all this, and of the fact, that large portions of the State are becoming wilderness, we have elaborate essays in the Southern Literary Magazine, published at Richmond, the very centre of the section where this desolation is going on, to prove that the property and greatness of Virginia are indisputably bound up with slavery, and the proud Virginian, though on the point of being driven out by the curse to seek subsistence under more favorable auspices, will deem it a personal affront, if you deny that it is a blessing!

We have seen no account of anti-slavery matters at the North since we left, except in the Southern papers. The Liberty movement, being a new phase of politics, has naturally attracted much of their attention. I see that even the *Madisonian* is beginning to plead with anti-slavery men to maintain their integrity. It has an odd way of doing it, still the attempt is significant of the importance which is attached to our movements. That paper says: "Certainly there can be no doubt as to the fate of the Abolitionists, if they can be seduced into the support of Mr. Clay—Mr. Mendenhall's patron and friend." * * * "If they shall be induced now to desert their own color, they can never rally again, and there is great comfort in this thought. They can never make any more converts, because they can never again inspire confidence, after abandoning Birney, the chief abolitionist of the world, and supporting Mr. Clay, with \$50,000 worth of slaves, *tolding under the lash on his plantation*! This is certainly strange language for a slave state paper! If these Southern politicians do not take care, they will themselves be aware, to look upon slavery as a disreputable thing.

By the Whig Courier of Pulaski, Tenn., I see that Mr. Polk stubbornly refuses to answer all questions put to him concerning his opinions on the great question before the nation. At a meeting held in that town on the 20th September, a committee of seven gentlemen was appointed to wait on Mr. Polk, personally, and solicit from him replies to eight distinct questions, concerning the Tariff and Texas. They accordingly visited him, and he informed them that he would answer them at a proper time. They waited some days, in expectation of an answer, but being disappointed, addressed another letter to Mr. Polk, on the 29th of September, "respectfully desiring him to inform them whether a reply was to be expected, and if so, at what time." They then waited till the 3d October, and, having received no answer, made their report, to those who had appointed them. Mr. Polk is evidently under bonds to keep his peace. He is pre-eminently, the *summa* candidate. General Jackson, in an address at Jackson, Tenn., once said—"Vote for no candidate who will not tell you with the frankness of an independent freeman, the principles upon which he is to act." He will administer your government." * * * "That man deserves to be a slave who would vote for a *summa* candidate, where his liberty is at stake." So say I.

The Richmond Enquirer is exposing the trickery of the Whigs of the North, and their attempts to win anti-slavery votes. The Petersburg Intelligencer retorts by showing up similar trickery on the part of the Democrats. It quotes some strange remarks from the Philadelphia Spirit of the Times, a Polk paper. After having noticed the accusation against Mr. Birney, that he preferred Polk to Clay, the Spirit of the Times asks—"Is it not natural? Is not the Democratic party opposed as a man to human slavery? Is there a true Democrat in Pennsylvania who is not opposed to the traffic of human flesh and blood? Are not the principles of the Democratic party of that peculiar character which recognizes all men as free and equal, and which, looking with an eye of sorrow on an institution imposed upon us by Great Britain herself, would fain free from their horrid manacles, all who are born in the image of their Maker, and rid this land of liberty of

the last vestige of Despotism? Is there a man of honest feelings who would not rejoice to see our country free from this incubus upon her humanity, and witness the colored race within our borders made happy in the possession of at least those human and inalienable privileges which are theirs by right of Nature and of God? We think not. 'Freedom for the bond' is the cry of every real Democratic heart. 'Liberty' is their motto, and the 'Sons of Liberty' is an appropriate title of the Democratic party." And, therefore, most consistently, they go for a slaveholding candidate for the Presidency, and for a measure designed to render the power and duration of slavery illegitimate!

Meantime, these demonstrations of political parties at the North, designed to propitiate the anti-slavery sentiment, do not escape the watchful eye of the Slave Power.

We have had a summer sun. The air is bland and delicious. But the Frost Spirit has been at work in the woods, and their sad, autumnal apparel contrasts strongly enough with the bright, warm sunshine. G. B.

FOREIGN ARRIVAL.

From the New-York Sun. Extra.
The Steamship Great Western, Capt. Mathew, from Liverpool, arrived at her birth in the East River, about 10 o'clock Saturday evening.

By this arrival we have our usual files of papers from London up to and including the 11th inst., Liverpool papers of the 12th, Paris of the 9th, and Dublin and Havre dates of the 10th.

The Western brings 139 passengers. She has had favorable weather—made the passage in 4 days and 13 hours.

The Atlantic has been tolerably quiet; it is, nevertheless, steady, and speculators have been doing a little.

The Wheat market of London and Liverpool are inactive.

The cheese which came to hand by the Great Western was excellent, and sold readily at a high price. So is growing in the selling in favor of American provisions generally; that it promises to become one of the most thriving trades between the two countries.

In American bonds there has been but little change; but they are not without a market.

The affairs of Tahiti are reduced to their former condition, as they have not ceased to excite regret, but they do not awaken fear of a warlike character.

One of the most remarkable features of the day is the speculation which is now going forward in new rail way projects, and of the number and extent of these projects, the crowded column of the London and country papers afford full information.

It is conjectured to find that the Post-Office, the great accumulation of pennies has advanced £82,000 on the year, and no less than £40,000 on the quarter.

Six miles of atmospheric railway, from Dartmouth Arms to Croydon, will, it is expected, be ready in May next.

From Liverpool, to Sweden.—Letters from Stockholm of the 24th ult., represent nearly all the Swedish provinces to have suffered severely from inundation, but in the greatest degree the country bordering on the river Röro, which rose thirteen feet in less than an hour, rushing in torrents upon the large village of Konradsund and its environs, which were quickly submerged; sweeping away all the houses and factories, and twenty-two windmills, and in fact, leaving nothing but a mass of ruins.

Louis PHILIPPE IN ENGLAND.—The King of the French and his suite embarked at Trepont on the evening of the 7th inst. for England.—The Queen was deeply affected on taking leave of her husband, this being her first separation from him since her marriage. She was compelled to shed tears. About day-break on the following morning the French squadron approached the English coast, and the inhabitants of Portsmouth, the great naval port of England, were early on the look out for it, and made every necessary preparation for the distinguished visitor.

The arrival of Louis Philippe and his minister, Mr. Guizot, a visit to Queen Victoria, is the primary attraction of the week. The reception which the French monarch experienced at landing, was hearty and fervent; and from the time of his setting foot on British soil, until he found himself in the royal apartments of Windsor Castle, his progress resembles an ovation.

With this visit will add to the popularity of Louis Philippe amongst his own subjects, but no doubt exists that it will increase the number of well wishers on this side of the channel.

It was contrived that a sort of fleet, as it were, of the squadrons of experimental gun-brigs and one or two ships of the line and some other vessels, should, by stretching out the line of their course, sweep the coast of the French coast, at once act as a heralds to the arrival of the French vessels, and as a sort of escort to his Majesty up the harbor.

The meeting of the Sovereigns was of the most affectionate character, without any formal or cold ceremonial greetings. When the King alighted, he embraced Her Majesty in a most cordial and affectionate manner, and immediately, giving her a kiss, ascended the steps of the grand staircase. At the entrance of the crimson drawing-room, Her Majesty partied from the King, and he immediately proceeded to his private apartments, attended only by his personal attendants and attendants, where he remained for a short time. In about a quarter of an hour, again met her Majesty at lunch, which was strictly a private party.

The King, on his arrival in England, was received by Mr. Graham, his agent, and his suite, and was shown into the drawing room of Synod on Monday forenoon until Friday, 13 o'clock at night.

The accused admitted the fact of the teaching of his friends, contented that he could not be condemned upon it, because if an offence at all was not one defined by the standards of the Presbyterian Church—that it was against the freedom of discussion to try a man before he is accused.

He then referred to the "influence of the law of man and slave, was a part of the laws of Synod." "Yes," said he, "but it is declared in the "Confession of Faith" that religion "is to have no temporal power over man."

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The case came up before Synod on reference from the lower court, was argued by the professor, and admitted by Mr. Graham, and the grand staircase. At the entrance of the crimson drawing-room, Her Majesty partied from the King, and he immediately proceeded to his private apartments, attended only by his personal attendants and attendants, where he remained for a short time. In about a quarter of an hour, again met her Majesty at lunch, which was strictly a private party.

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Is not the Democratic party opposed as a man to human slavery? Is there a true Democrat in Pennsylvania who is not opposed to the traffic of human flesh and blood? Are not the principles of the Democratic party of that

peculiar character which recognizes all men as free and equal, and which, looking with an eye of sorrow on an institution imposed upon us by

Great Britain herself, would fain free from their horrid manacles, all who are born in the image of their Maker, and rid this land of liberty of

An Important View.

In the various discussions of Constitutional Law in relation to Slavery, I do not remember to have seen one presented, which, nevertheless seems to me both important and sound.

It is admitted, on all hands, that the right of one man to another, as his slave, depends, wholly, for its existence, extent and continuance, upon the law of the State or country, in which it is exercised. It is admitted, also, that no person can be held as a slave, of natural right, but that all such holding is against natural right, and in virtue, exclusively, of positive law. It follows, necessarily, that the moment an individual, held as a slave in one State or country, under the law thereof, passes beyond its territorial limits, he becomes free, not in virtue or by operation of any law of the State or country into which he comes, but because he *leaves* the condition of the slave *behind him*, when he leaves the territory by the law of which the condition was created.

Now the Constitution of the United States provides that "no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor; but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

Admitting that this provision was intended to embrace fugitive slaves, and, what is more doubtful, that it does in fact embrace them, the question still remains, "does this provision prevent the emancipation of such fugitives?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not.

I merely declare that the fugitive servant shall not be charged for service in consequence of any law or regulation of the State into which he may escape. Now a slave is not discharged from slavery, on leaving the State by the law of which he is held as a slave and coming into another, *virtue of any law of that other*?

He is discharged because he leaves the law by which he was bound.

The slave-dealers there are a couple of Jews, who came into the State peddling pins, but have grown rich in trading in human flesh; and the Cossack, once a horse-jockey. They are all held in contempt, we believe, by the better class of slaveholders.

The trade is most active from October to Spring. Two or three packets are then kept regularly between Petersburg and New-Orleans. The railroad southward is the other great highway for this species of commerce. Last winter, we are informed, *unless* four or five thousand slaves passed in the cars to the Southern market. An equal number, at least, must have been shipped coastwise; while many passed off westward, and try the northern route. In all, from ten to twelve thousand slaves were exported from this slave-mart in one season. An able bodied male slave was worth 600 dollars; a woman, from four to five hundred.

Estimating the number exported at 12,000, and the average price per head, at \$400, we have a sum of \$4,800,000, as the revenue from the slave-trade on the quarter.

It is conjectured to find that the Post-Office, the great accumulation of pennies has advanced £82,000 on the year, and no less than £40,000 on the quarter.

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Tuesday, November 5, 1844.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.

Stony Creek, Sussex Co., Va., Oct. 26, 1844.

Dear Sir,—The tide of emigration from the Eastern section of 1/2 State, is increasing every year. This country contained in 1840 a population of about eleven thousand, one half being slaves. Last year, no less than two hundred persons left the county for Missouri, Tennessee, and other States. The planter, with his fifty, one hundred or two hundred slaves goes on exhausting the soil with his everlasting cotton, tobacco, until he can extract no more wealth from it, and then emigrates with his force to a virgin soil, which he soon uses up in the same way. A lot of land sold a few weeks since for seventy-five cents per acre; the average price per acre is about two dollars—for the choice tracts, five dollars! Numbers, if they could realize any thing worthy of consideration for their lands, would sell them and move off. On the contrary, negroes are the only article that sell well. The grand slave-market is at Petersburg. The slave-dealers there are a couple of Jews, who came into the State peddling pins, but have grown rich in trading in human flesh; and the Cossack, once a horse-jockey. They are all held in contempt, we believe, by the better class of slaveholders.

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ers. The slaveholders are always anxious to divert the attention of the People of the United States from the great question of the day, and of this country in particular. Hence, we have no doubt, that after the election, they will do all they can to magnify this new issue, of Native Americanism, and, if there should be indications of its becoming popular, they will assume the direction of matters at once. Recollect, Senator Archer, of Virginia, is the first man in the National Legislature, who has pledged himself to this new *ism*. Alas for our country, should it suffer us to be rent into two factions on this malignant question!

Looking out, as I do now, upon the desolations of slavery; here, in the heart of a noble State, which, for this cause might have been first in point of virtue, wealth and population; penetrated as I am, more deeply than ever with the conviction that this system must cease, or this Union fall; I cannot help exclaiming, cursed be the day, when a new issue, involving the elements of National hate and sectarian malignity, the mind of the American People shall be directed from the green question of American Slavery, until the hour of its peaceful settlement shall have gone by! For then may we expect to see the sun of our prosperity go down amidst the horrors at once of an alien and a servile war. May God, in his mercy, avert from this nation, that evil hour!

G. B.

Anglo-Saxon Slavery.

Hargrave, in his celebrated argument for the negro Somers, before the Court of King's Bench, in 1771, thus describes the Anglo-Saxon slaves, held in England, under the denomination of *Vilains*.

"The condition of the villein had most of the incidents which I have before described in giving an idea of slavery in general. His service was uncertain and indeterminate. Such as were villeins, we are told, avowedly avowed the *emancipation of such fugitives*?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not. The Whigs are identical with the abolitionists. No honest man can affirm this. Who was so violent against the abolition petitions as Mr. Wise? His service was uncertain and indeterminate. Such as were villeins, we are told, avowedly avowed the *emancipation of such fugitives*?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not. The Whigs are identical with the abolitionists. No honest man can affirm this. Who was so violent against the abolition petitions as Mr. Wise? His service was uncertain and indeterminate. Such as were villeins, we are told, avowedly avowed the *emancipation of such fugitives*?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not. The Whigs are identical with the abolitionists. No honest man can affirm this. Who was so violent against the abolition petitions as Mr. Wise? His service was uncertain and indeterminate. Such as were villeins, we are told, avowedly avowed the *emancipation of such fugitives*?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not. The Whigs are identical with the abolitionists. No honest man can affirm this. Who was so violent against the abolition petitions as Mr. Wise? His service was uncertain and indeterminate. Such as were villeins, we are told, avowedly avowed the *emancipation of such fugitives*?" I deliberately avow the opinion that it does not. The Whigs are identical with the abolitionists. No honest man can affirm this. Who was so violent against the abolition

